IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend Claims 1, 6, 9, 14, 17, 22, 26, and 27. The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the present application:

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Claim 1 (currently amended): A device searching apparatus that searches for at least one device on a network, comprising:

input means for entering a first search condition and a second search condition, both related to a device function, in order to search for a desired device on the network;

first search means for searching for at least one device that satisfies the first search condition entered by [[using]] said input means;

second search means for searching for at least one device that satisfies the second search condition entered [[using]] by said input means;

search control means for controlling said first search means and said second search means to execute searches in response to input of a search request; and

output means for outputting a search result based on the searches by said first search means and said second search means,

wherein said output means outputs the search result such that a device that satisfies the first search condition may be discriminated from a device that satisfies the second search condition.

Claim 2 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 1, wherein

said first search means performs a first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions,

said second search means performs a second search independently of the first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions, the inputted value being inputted independently of the inputted value used by said first search means, and

said output means distinguishably displays a search result of said first search means and a search result of said second search means on a display unit.

Claim 3 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 2, further comprising:

control means for controlling said output means to output the search result such that the search result includes identification information and attribute information of a device that satisfies at least one of the first search condition and the second search condition; and

communication means for acquiring device information, registered corresponding to identification information in another apparatus on the network, from the other apparatus,

wherein said control means controls said communication means to acquire additional information on each device identified in the search result, and causes the additional information to be added to the search result.

Claim 4 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein

said control means is adapted to acquire, from an apparatus that manages location information of devices on the network, location information of each device identified in the search result, and to add the location information to the search result.

Claim 5 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 3, wherein said control means is adapted to acquire, from an apparatus that manages charge information of devices on the network, charge information of each device identified in the search result, and to add the charge information to the search result.

Claim 6 (currently amended): A device searching apparatus that searches for at least one device on a network, comprising:

management means for managing a database that includes identification information for identifying a device on the network and static information associated therewith;

input means for entering a first group of attributes and a second group of attributes, both related to a device function, for searching for at least one desired device on the network;

first search means for searching for at least one device from the database having the first group of attributes entered [[using]] by said input means;

second search means for searching for at least one device from the database having the second group of attributes entered [[using]] by said input means;

output means for outputting a search result that includes identification

information [[of]] and static information of a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes;

control means for adding dynamic information to the search result, according to a number of devices having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes; and

discrimination means for discriminating a device with a high frequency of use, based on the dynamic information, which relates to a use history of devices on the network,

wherein, in a case in which a number of devices having the first group of attributes is zero, said control means adds to the search result information of the device with the high frequency of use discriminated using said discrimination means.

Claim 7 (previously presented): An apparatus according to claim 6, wherein, in a case in which a number of devices identified in the search result is at least equal to a predetermined value, said control means acquires dynamic information from a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes and adds the dynamic information to the search result.

Claim 8 (canceled)

Claim 9 (currently amended): A device searching method for searching for at least one device on a network, comprising:

an input step of entering a first search condition and a second search condition,

both related to a device function, in order to search for a desired device on the network;

a first search step of searching for at least one device from the database that satisfies the first search condition entered in said input step;

a second search step of searching for at least one device that satisfies the second search condition entered in said input step;

a search control step of controlling said first search step and said second search step to execute searches in response to input of a search request; and

an output step of outputting a search result based on the searches in said first search step and said second search step,

wherein said output step outputs the search result such that a device that satisfies the first search condition may be discriminated from a device that satisfies the second search condition.

Claim 10 (previously presented): A method according to claim 9, wherein

said first search step performs a first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions,

said second search step performs a second search independently of the first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions, the inputted value being inputted independently of the inputted value used in said first search step, and

said output step includes distinguishably displaying a search result of said first search step and a search result of said second search step on a display unit.

Claim 11 (previously presented): A method according to claim 10, further comprising:

a control step of controlling said output step to output the search result such that the search result includes identification information and attribute information of a device that satisfies at least one of the first search condition and the second search condition; and

a reception step of receiving device information, registered corresponding to identification information in another apparatus on the network, from the other apparatus,

wherein said control step controls said reception step to acquire additional information on each device identified in the search result, and causes the additional information to be added to the search result.

Claim 12 (previously presented): A method according to claim 11, wherein said control step includes acquiring, from an apparatus that manages location information of devices on the network, location information of each device identified in the search result, and adding the location information to the search result.

Claim 13 (previously presented): A method according to claim 11, wherein said control step includes acquiring, from an apparatus that manages charge information of devices on the network, charge information of each device identified in the search result, and adding the charge information to the search result.

Claim 14 (currently amended): A device searching method for searching for at least one device on a network, comprising:

a management step of managing a database that includes identification information for identifying a device on the network and static information associated therewith;

an input step of entering a first group of attributes and a second group of attributes, both related to a device function, for searching for at least one desired device on the network;

a first search step of searching for at least one device from the database having the first group of attributes entered in said input step;

a second search step of searching for at least one device from the database having the second group of attributes entered in said input step;

an output step of outputting a search result that includes identification information [[or]] and static information of a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes;

a control step of adding dynamic information to the search result, according to a number of devices having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes; and

a discrimination step of discriminating a device with a high frequency of use, based on the dynamic information, which relates to a use history of devices on the network,

wherein, in a case in which a number of devices having the first group of attributes is zero, said control step includes adding to the search result information of the device with the high frequency of use discriminated in said discrimination step.

Claim 15 (previously presented): A method according to claim 14, wherein, in a case in which a number of devices identified in the search result is at least equal to a predetermined value, said control step includes acquiring dynamic information from a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes and adding the dynamic information to the search result.

Claim 16 (canceled)

Claim 17 (currently amended): A memory medium storing a computer program to be executed by a computer to implement a device searching method for searching for at least one device on a network, the method comprising:

an input step of entering a first search condition and a second search condition, both related to a device function, in order to search for a desired device on the network;

a first search step of searching for at least one device that satisfies the first search condition entered in said input step;

a second search step of searching for at least one device that satisfies the second search condition entered in said input step;

a search control step of controlling said first search step and said second search step to execute searches in response to input of a search request; and

an output step of outputting a search result based on the searches in said first search step and said second search step,

wherein said output step outputs the search result such that a device that satisfies the first search condition may be discriminated from a device that satisfies the second search condition.

Claim 18 (previously presented): A memory medium according to claim 17, wherein

said first search step performs a first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions,

said second search step performs a second search independently of the first search based on an inputted value representing a plurality of functions, the inputted value being inputted independently of the inputted value used in said first search step, and

said output step includes distinguishably displaying a search result of said first search step and a search result of said second search step on a display unit.

Claim 19 (previously presented): A memory medium according to claim 18, wherein the method further comprises:

a control step of controlling said output step to output the search result such that the search result includes identification information and attribute information of a device that satisfies at least one of the first search condition and the second search condition; and

a reception step of receiving device information, registered corresponding to identification information in another apparatus on the network, from the other apparatus,

wherein said control step controls said reception step to acquire additional information on each device identified in the search result, and causes the additional information to be added to the search result.

Claim 20 (previously presented): A memory medium according to claim 19, wherein said control step includes acquiring, from an apparatus that manages location information of devices on the network, location information of each device identified in the search result, and adding the location information to the search result.

Claim 21 (previously presented): A memory medium according to claim 19, wherein said control step includes acquiring, from an apparatus that manages charge information of devices on the network, charge information of each device identified in the search result, and adding the charge information to the search result.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A memory medium storing a computer program to be executed by a computer to implement a device searching method for searching for at least one device on a network, the method comprising:

a management step of managing a database that includes identification information for identifying a device on the network and static information associated therewith;

an input step of entering a first group of attributes and a second group of attributes, both related to a device function, for searching for at least one desired device on the

network;

a first search step of searching for at least one device from the database having the first group of attributes entered in said input step;

a second search step of searching for at least one device from the database having the second group of attributes entered in said input step;

an output step of outputting a search result that includes identification information [[or]] and static information of a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes;

a control step of adding dynamic information to the search result, according to a number of devices having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes; and

a discrimination step of discriminating a device with a high frequency of use, based on the dynamic information, which relates to a use history of devices on the network,

wherein, in a case in which a number of devices having the first group of attributes is zero, said control step adds to the search result information of the device with the high frequency of use discriminated in said discrimination step.

Claim 23 (previously presented): A memory medium according to claim 22, wherein, in a case in which a number of devices identified in the search result is at least equal to a predetermined value, said control step includes acquiring dynamic information from a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes and adding the dynamic information to the search result.

Claim 24 (canceled)

Claim 25 (previously presented): A device according to claim 6, wherein

the first group of attributes used by said first search means includes at least one of color, double side, and staple,

said output means outputs to a display unit, and

said first search means and said second search means search for devices having the first group of attributes and the second group of attributes, respectively, in accordance with a search instruction inputted by a user, such that found devices are automatically displayed on the display unit as list.

Claim 26 (currently amended): A device searching system that searches for at least one device on a network, comprising:

an input unit for entering a first search condition and a second search condition, both related to a device function, in order to search for a desired device on the network;

a first search computer for searching for at least one device that satisfies the first search condition entered by [[using]] said input unit;

a second search computer for searching for at least one device that satisfies the second search condition entered by [[using]] said input unit; and

a search controller for controlling said first search computer and said second

search computer to execute searches in response to input of a search request; and

an output unit for outputting a search result [[of]] based on the searches performed by said first search computer and said second search computer,

wherein said output unit outputs the search result such that a device that satisfies the first search condition may be discriminated from a device that satisfies the second search condition.

Claim 27 (currently amended): A device searching system that searches for at least one device on a network, comprising:

a management computer for managing a database that includes identification information for identifying a device on the network and static information associated therewith;

an input unit for entering a first group of attributes and a second group of attributes, both related to a device function, for searching for at least one desired device on the network;

a first search computer for searching for at least one device from the database having the first group of attributes entered [[using]] by said input unit;

a second search computer for searching for at least one device from the database that satisfies the second group of attributes entered [[using]] by said input unit;

an output unit for outputting a search result that includes identification information [[or]] and static information of a device having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes;

a control computer for adding dynamic information to the first and the second groups of attributes, according to a number of devices having at least one of the first and the second groups of attributes; and

a discrimination computer for discriminating a device with a high frequency of use, based on the dynamic information, which relates to a use history of devices on the network,

wherein, in a case in which a number of devices having the first group of attributes is zero, said control computer adds to the search result information of the device with the high frequency of use discriminated using said discrimination computer.